



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Taggart et al.

Examiner: Soubra, I.

Serial No. : 09/354,478

Art Unit: 1744

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Dkt. No.: STEU-2661

Title: Apparatus and Method for Providing Container Interior  
Sterilization In An Aseptic Processing Apparatus

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Amendment**

8/A  
A. A.  
4/16/01

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of December 21, 2000,  
please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 9 and 19.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1 1. (Amended) Apparatus comprising:  
2       a first supply source of sterile air;  
3       a supply source of sterilant;  
4       an atomizing system producing an atomized sterilant  
5       from the mixing of the sterile air from the first supply source  
6       of sterile air with the sterilant;  
7       a second supply source of a hot sterile air for  
8       providing the hot sterile air to the atomized sterilant;  
9       a probe extending into an interior of a container for  
10      applying the atomized sterilant into the interior of the  
11      container; and

09/354,478

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